Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A machine-implemented method comprising:

generating a comparison of a current software installation, to a target computer, with a previous software installation, to the same target computer, in a series of two or more software installations during a software product development;

creating installation data for a resource, based at least in part on the comparison, the resource including attributes including a dynamic attribute and a static attribute, the dynamic attribute being an attribute that should have changed between the previous software installation and the current software installation, the static attribute being an attribute that should remain unchanged between the previous software installation and the current software installation that represents a new expectation for an installation result, for one or more resources associated with a software installer, the new expectation being a transition from an expectation of volatility to an expectation of stability for future software installs;

identifying from the installation data the dynamic attribute that was not changed in the current software installation; and

presenting potential problems with the current software installation based on the identified dynamic attribute to facilitate verification of an installer for the software product development.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating a comparison of a current software installation with a previous software installation; and

identifying, based on the comparison, resources that have changed in their installation result from the previous software installation to the current software installation, despite the new expectation of stability for the resources

identifying from the installation data the static attribute that was changed in the current software installation; and

presenting potential problems with the current software installation based on the identified static attribute to facilitate verification of the installer for the software product development.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further comprising identifying, based on the comparison, resources that have not changed in their installation result from the previous software installation to the current software installation, despite an expectation that the unchanged resources should change from the previous software installation to the current software installation~~ wherein the previous software installation is performed about one day prior to the current software installation.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, further comprising tracking expectations for the ~~resources~~ resource in a primary installation baseline and a secondary installation baseline, and wherein presenting the potential problems comprises presenting a baseline-update interface by transmitting markup language data.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, further comprising excluding a set of resources from the generated comparison for the software product development.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]] 5, wherein the expectations of resource changes, including the data, are stored in a relational database indexed by date, platform, language, and product configuration.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein the ~~expectations for the resources relate to~~ attributes comprising modification date stamp information, file size information, security permissions information, and checksum information.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein the ~~resources~~ resource comprises a file ~~files~~ and a system registry ~~entries~~, and the installation ~~result~~ data comprises deletions, additions, and modifications of the ~~resources~~ resource.

10. (Currently Amended) A software product tangibly embodied in a machine-readable medium, the software product comprising instructions operable to cause one or more data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:

generating a comparison of a current software installation, to a target computer, with a previous software installation, to the same target computer, in a series of two or more software installations during a software product development;

creating installation data for a resource, based at least in part on the comparison, the resource including attributes including a dynamic attribute and a static attribute, the dynamic attribute being an attribute that should have changed between the previous software installation and the current software installation, the static attribute being an attribute that should remain unchanged between the previous software installation and the current software installation;

~~identifying, based on the comparison, resources that have not changed in their installation result from the previous software installation to the current software installation, despite an expectation that the unchanged resources should change from the previous software installation to the current software installation~~

identifying from the installation data the dynamic attribute that was not changed in the current software installation; and

presenting potential problems with the current software installation based on the identified ~~resources~~ dynamic attribute to facilitate verification of an installer for ~~a~~ the software product development.

11. (Currently Amended) The software product of claim 10, wherein the operations further comprise:

receiving input specifying which of the identified ~~resources~~ <u>dynamic attribute and static attribute</u> should be static in their installation ~~result~~ <u>data</u> for future software installations; and

designating a new expectation of stability for the specified ~~resources~~ <u>attribute</u> according to the received input.

12. (Currently Amended) The software product of claim 10, wherein the operations further comprise ~~identifying, based on the comparison, resources that have changed in their installation result from the previous software installation to the current software installation, despite an expectation that the changed resources should not change from the previous software installation to the current software installation~~

<u>identifying from the installation data the static attribute that was changed in the current software installation; and</u>

<u>presenting potential problems with the current software installation based on the identified static attribute to facilitate verification of the installer for the software product development.</u>

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 12, wherein the operations further comprise tracking the expectations of resource changes in a primary installation baseline and a secondary installation baseline, and wherein presenting the potential problems comprises presenting a baseline-update interface by transmitting markup language data.

15. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 12, wherein the operations further comprise excluding a set of resources from the generated comparison for the software product.

16. (Previously Presented) The software product of claim 12, wherein the expectations of resource changes are stored in a relational database indexed by date, platform, language, and product configuration.

17. (Currently Amended) The software product of claim ~~12~~ 10, wherein the ~~expectations of resource changes relate to~~ attributes comprising modification date stamp information, file size information, security permissions information, and checksum information.

18. (Currently Amended) The software product of claim 12, wherein the ~~resources~~ resource comprises a file ~~files~~ and a system registry ~~entries~~, and the installation ~~result~~ data comprises deletions, additions, and modifications of the ~~resources~~ resource.

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a build controller;

an install controller comprising a database including a baseline recording expectations of ~~stability or volatility~~ a dynamic attribute and a static attribute for one or more resources associated with a software installer, the dynamic attribute being an attribute that should have changed between a previous software installation and a current software installation, the static attribute being an attribute that should remain unchanged between the previous software installation and the current software installation; and

one or more install slave machines;

wherein the build controller automatically triggers the install controller to initiate installer tests as part of a software build process, and the install controller automatically dispatches installation to the one or more install slave machines and collects test results to be presented in a report comprising a baseline-update interface.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the one or more install slave machines comprise multiple computers.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the install controller communicates with the one or more install slave machines using Simple Object Access Protocol.

22. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 19, wherein the baseline-update interface comprises a web-based user interface allowing baseline updates across SKU, language, operating system, and custom/non-custom installs, in combination or all at once.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein the ~~expectations for the resources relate to~~ attributes comprising modification date stamp information, file size information, security permissions information, and checksum information.

24. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for generating <u>a comparison of a current software installation, to a target computer, with a previous software installation, to the same target computer, in a series of two or more software installations during a software product development</u> ~~current install comparison of a computing system before a software installation, with the computing system after the software installation, the current install comparison identifying new resources that are added to the computing system during the software installation and identifying system resources that are modified during the software installation, and the current install comparison recording at least one attribute of the resources for the current software installation~~;

means for <u>creating installation data for a resource, based at least in part on the comparison, the resource including attributes including a dynamic attribute and a static attribute, the dynamic attribute being an attribute that should have changed between the previous software installation and the current software installation, the static attribute being an attribute that should remain unchanged between the previous software installation and the current software installation</u> ~~generating a software trend comparison of the current install comparison with a previous install comparison, the software trend comparison indicating which of the resources have changed in the at least one attribute from the previous install to the current install, and the software trend comparison indicating which of the resources have not changed in the at least one attribute from the previous install to the current install~~;

means for <u>identifying from the installation data the dynamic attribute that was not changed in the current software installation</u> ~~comparing the software trend comparison with a record of installation expectations that indicates which of the resources should be in flux, and~~

~~which of the resources should be stable from the previous install to the current install, with~~

~~respect to the at least one attribute~~; and

     means for presenting potential problems with the current software installation

based on the <u>identified dynamic attribute to facilitate verification of the installer for the software</u>

<u>product development</u> ~~comparison of the software trend comparison with the expectations record~~.